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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/033,625	12/27/2001	Hector Belmares	A148 1620.1	9305

7590 05/20/2004

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Atlanta, GA 30357-0037

EXAMINER
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WOODWARD, ANA LUCRECIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1711

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/033,625	Applicant(s) BELMARES ET AL.	
	Examiner Ana L. Woodward	Art Unit 1711	<i>eb</i>

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/10/02, 7/28/02, 12/8/03
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 19-47 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/10/02; 12/8/03</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Election/Restrictions*

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I in Paper filed July 28, 2003 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 19-47 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected group, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper filed July 28, 2003.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

3. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 1 and 10, the language "polyamide scavenger" is confusing since it is unclear as to whether such is referring to a scavenger for polyamides or a scavenger that is a polyamide.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-3, 6, 9-12, 15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated U.S. 4,346,181 (Allan).

Allan discloses reducing the formaldehyde emissions from formaldehyde condensation polymers by incorporating a substance having two or more amide linkages, such as a

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polyacrylamide polymer. The disclosure of the reference meets the requirements of the above-rejected claims both in terms of the types of materials added and method of preparing.

6. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. 5,705,537 (Hartman, Jr. et al).

Hartman, Jr. et al disclose phenolic foam containing phenol-formaldehyde resole resin and a peptide, a proteinaceous material, cysteine, glutamic acid, glycine, isoleucine, leucine, lysine, phenylalanine, serine, tryptophan or mixtures thereof in an amount effective to reduce emission of free formaldehyde. The foam additionally contains additives, such as, surfactant, acid catalysts, etc. (column 2, lines 62-67). The disclosure of the reference meets the requirements of the above-rejected claims both in terms of the types of materials added and method of preparing.

Claims 2 and 3 have been incorporated in this rejection because the present terms "synthetic polyamide" and "polyamide telomers", given their broadest reasonable interpretation, read on the substances of the reference.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. Claims 7, 8, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4,346,181 in view of U.S. 5,705,537 (Hartman, Jr. et al), both described hereinabove.

Allan differs in essence from the above-rejected claims in not expressly exemplifying the use of conventional additives. Additives, such as, surfactants and acid catalysts, are conventionally used in similar-such formaldehyde compositions, per Hartman, Jr. et al. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have employed

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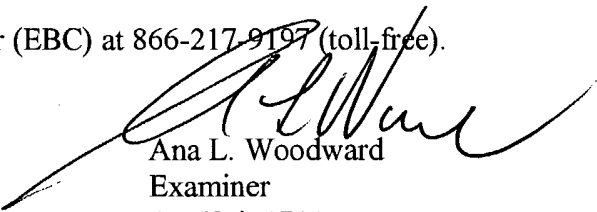
conventional additives in the composition of Allan for their expected additive effect, absent evidence of unusual or unexpected results.

***Conclusion***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ana L. Woodward whose telephone number is (571) 272-1082. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James J. Seidleck can be reached on (571) 272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Ana L. Woodward  
Examiner  
Art Unit 1711

AW